





# N. WM. D. KELLEY, OF PA.,

ON

## FREEDMEN'S AFFAIRS.

VERED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, FEB. 23, 1864.

use having under consideration the bill to establish a Bureau of Freedmen's Affairs, Mr. said:

PEAKER: Mutation is the law of our life. Paradoxical as it may seem, no law is immutable or inexorable than this. "Passing away" is written on all things. Nothing bideth in one stay; and sir, much of pain and anguish as recurring changes, the inevitable product of swift winged time, may bring. The sole source of hope and aspiration; they are the method and sure guarantee of progress, social and political. Stagnation is death. Bats and owls usually have their place in the economy of nature, but in their love of the twin darkness that succeed the day they do not symbolize the wise and sagacious statesman. That nation is in a bad way whose legislators' intellectual vision is not far-sighted; whose faith ignores eternal laws because they are blind and lays hold only of such palpable facts as that pepper is hot in the mouth, and when the sun is at meridian it should be noon by the almanac; and whose lungs no joyful prophecy of a better future, but spends itself on a sad refrain of legend and tradition. The wise statesman—indeed, he who is at all a man—is keen and far-sighted—notes the ever recurring new facts of the new age; watches the progress of sentiment and opinion. He observes the development of the material resources of his country and of the world. He pays regard to the eternal laws of justice, right, and truth, and from time to time so modifies habits, customs, and institutions as are vicious or essentially temporary and temporary as to bring the order of society into harmony with nature's laws, and secure the prosperity and peace of the people.

Statesmanship would have averted the rebellion that now scourges our country. The fathers of the country saw the character of slavery. They gave us the ordinance of 1787, which forever prohibited it north and west of the Ohio river. They excluded from our Constitution the words "slave" and "slavery," because they believed the institution to be transitory, and would not cause the blush of shame to mantle the cheeks of their descendants by recording in that enduring instrument the fact that an institution so incompatible with its scope and spirit had existed under it. Had their counsels prevailed, or had statesmen succeeded in getting the government of the country, slavery would have long since been abolished. Other questions than those which now distract our country would have been the business of solution at the hands of a peaceful, prosperous, and mighty people. But it was not so ordered. The government was confided to the hands of wicked and unprincipled demagogues, who, by disregarding the immutable laws of right and wrong, have involved us in war; and it is the part of the wise statesman and legislator to accept facts as he finds them, to apply controlling and enduring principles, and to evoke beautiful order out of the sanguinary chaos that surrounds us. This can only be done by inaugurating a system of paid labor that shall be in harmony with the spirit of the age and Christian civilization.

The bill under consideration, Mr. Speaker, is well calculated to produce these results. The committee charged with its preparation has considered it in no spirit or partisan spirit. The majority of the committee beheld the great need of a bureau as it contemplates. They have called from far and near the wisest men. They have heard slaveowning and other citizens of the rebellious ter-

the proclamation of the Commander-in-Chief of our Army and Navy, are tens of and hundreds of thousands to our standard and within our lines broad territory to which we look for supplies of cotton, rice, sugar, and to a wide waste, overgrown with weeds. The bill proposes, by means simple, constitutional, and inexpensive, nay, by which millions, many millions, will be added to the Treasury of our country; to cultivate so much of the land to employ in their cultivation so many of these people as have come or within our lines. In the cultivation of its lands a nation finds its wealth; none can suffer from the employment of idle laborers on abandoned lands.

The future welfare of the freedmen demands such action. They must be committed to contract habits of idleness, indolence, and vagrancy. The welfare of the people of the North demands it. They need the commodities yielded by slavery. Their industry is paralyzed by the want of cotton which will be produced by the labor of these people. The world at large demands it. The absence of well directed toil of these very people upon the neglected lands now and within our lines has caused gaunt want and starvation to stalk through the manufacturing districts of Great Britain and the continent. And it is our duty, by legislation, to stanch these wounds, as we can do by the coming autumn. The provisions of this bill are well directed to that end. Humanity, the spirit of the eighteenth century, and Christian civilization demand its immediate passage.

Happily, I need not dwell on its details. They were elaborately explained by my colleague on the committee when he introduced the bill to the House. On this occasion he challenged the free, frank, and full discussion of the bill; and no one has been made to his challenge. The gentleman from Ohio, [Mr. Sargent], gentleman from the Brooklyn district of New York, [Mr. KALBFLEISCH], gentleman from the city district of that State, [Mr. Brooks,] have all spoken on the bill; but they have not discussed its details. They have not attempted to expose the provisions in it that are unconstitutional, illegal, or unwise. They have not even uttered an invective and denunciation; but its details and its spirit they have exposed. Indeed, the gentleman from New York [Mr. Brooks] said:

"But, Mr. Speaker, it is vain for me to attempt to discuss the details of this bill, for which has doubtless been caucused and settled and decided upon elsewhere. I will not waste the time of the House in a futile discussion of its details."

Futile, indeed, would have been the discussion had the gentleman attempted to verify his denunciation of the bill by pointing out the provisions which justify it. He chose rather to evade the bill, its objects, and its provisions, and to entertain us with incoherent rhapsodies, which would have been very welcome to the Whole on the state of the Union where we speak for buncles which sounded dreary and melancholy enough in connection with a grave subject that which should properly have engaged the attention of the House.

Sir, in the absence of assailable provisions in the bill, the gentleman proceeded to express his indignation upon the grand old Puritan State. He said:

"I know the spirit of Massachusetts. I know her inexorable, unappeasable, demoniacal spirit. I know that what she decrees she will execute, as when she ordered the burning of the Quakers at Salem, or the scourging of the Quakers, or the exile of the Baptists to the rocky shores of Narragansett or to the mountain fastnesses and glens of New Hampshire, where my Puritan ancestors were banished. Hence when, as now, she decrees on the Africau, I tremble for the safety of hitherto happy human beings now doomed to extermination."

And again he said:

"The spirit of Massachusetts has done in two or three years only what Christ, or the Puritans, did in twelve or fifteen hundred years in accomplishing in the Roman empire."

Sir, I am no son of Massachusetts or New England as the gentleman is. I remember that, in my wayward youth, being free from the indenture that bound me to a long apprenticeship, but not having attained manhood, I wandered into native Pennsylvania, counter to the current tide of emigration, in pursuit of my fortune, and found a home in Massachusetts, and I may be pardoned if I permit to freely testify my gratitude to her in whom I found a gentle and foster-mother. I thank God for the Puritan spirit of Massachusetts. A friendless, and in pursuit of wages for manual toil, I found open to me in the city of Boston the science, history, and literature of the world. At a cost that a laboring man did not feel I found in her lyceums and lecture-rooms the means

A bright American civilization will be carried, and found four years of well-paid toil worth to me what the same number of years in a college might be. I thank the men of Massachusetts, as will the scholars in public schools upon her principles in the city of Charleston in good time. They may be they may be black, they may be yellow, but when the civilization of Massachusetts shall have penetrated that dark city, and fashioned its institutions as it pleasure of the pupils in the schools will be to thank God night and morning the spirit of Massachusetts which kept liberty alive, and finally brought its to the entire people of the country. Yes, sir, Massachusetts in the past years has given a practical application to those principles which in twelve or centuries gave freedom to Europe, and are about giving it to all the people America. Not without war, however; and the gentleman ignored the teachings very when he said that it had been done without war in Europe. Sir, the history of the contest for freedom in Europe is a history of continuous, sanguinary, destructive war.

Gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Cox] less gravely—I will not say more flippantly, might be offensive—devoted his hour, as I have said, not to the examination of the bill, but to a criticism of certain utterances of Wendell Phillips and George Tilton, and reading copious extracts from a pamphlet recently published by, Hamilton & Co., Nassau street, New York, entitled *Miscegenation*.

I am little disappointed, Mr. Speaker, that this bill should receive such treatment at the hands of gentlemen on the other side of the House. They profess to unite with the people of the South and wish to restore them to the blessings of society. Sir, do they not know that this bill relates to four million people in the South, half a million, certainly more than four hundred thousand, of whom are near relatives of their former associates on this floor and their partisans in the North, men to whom they and their deluded followers confided the administration of our Government for more than thirty years? None know better than these men that one half million slaves are the near relatives, the uncles, aunts, and brothers, sisters, and children of the Democracy of the South; that in the South that number of colored people tingles the blood of what the gentlemen have hitherto ceased to consider the *master race* of this country. The gentleman intimated that he believed that he Republicans and abolitionists of the North will fall into the process of amalgamation. Sir, he knows very well that the complaint of the illegal and unconstitutional arrest of that specimen of southern chivalry, representative of Virginia manners and morals, that leader of the New York Cavalry, Capt. J. U. Andrews, is not the real grievance in the premises. He knows well that their real grievance, and that out of which they expected to make capital while they hoped to restore slavery to its old political power, is that the officers tore that husband of a white wife ruthlessly from the sweltering embrace of his African *inamorata* they violated Democratic usages. Yes, sir; this is the real cause of complaint in the premises.

Not the men of the North who have been enamored by that complexion, described as the “shadowed livery of the burning sun.” It is not the men of the North who have laid their “snowy hands” in “palms of russet;” or “hung over the priceless pearl that shames the Orient on Africa’s swarthy neck;” or really comprehend mentally the truth of the poet’s aphorism, that

“In joining contrasts lieth Love’s delight.”

An exquisite and delicate source of enjoyment have been in the exclusive possession of the Southern Democracy, the collaborators in politics of the gentleman who sent them so wantonly upon the people of his own section. He has never seen a northern man choose his companion from that race. I have by me the picture of a band of slaves sent North by General Banks, four of whom are as white as any who hold this discussion. They come from the colored schools recently established in New Orleans. They are children of southern Democrats; born in Virginia, Louisiana, they were owned or sold by their fathers as negro slaves. Sir, upon that picture of Washington’s companion in the Revolution [pointing to the picture of La Fayette] and his fit associate in this Hall, and I remember when on his tour through this country in 1824 he visited the southern States, publicly expressed his surprise at finding the complexion of the negro pop-

race of the South. Thus in Louisiana, of the free colored people, \$1.29 per cent are of mixed blood, while in Pennsylvania only 36.67 are of mixed blood. Here let me say the latter are nearly all of southern birth. I remember that litigation was pending in our courts between two colored natives of Charleston, who were on one occasion about fifty witnesses in court. Some of my colleagues sat for the occasion. The contest was between Robert J. Douglas and Wilkinson, and among the fifty witnesses, all of whom were natives of Charleston, South Carolina, and its immediate vicinity, there was not a black or a white man. The all are of mixed blood. And in behalf of Pennsylvania, I claim that the South holds by far the greater portion of what we have of that stock. In Alabama the percentage of mixed blood is 77.99, and in Vermont 27.08. In Texas it swells to 51. Rhode Island it sinks to 25.23; in South Carolina it rises again to 71.96, notwithstanding her exports to Pennsylvania and elsewhere; in Connecticut it is 22.04. In North Carolina it is 71.59; in New York it is 15.88. In Florida 63.99; in New Jersey it is but 13.64. But these, you say, are freed people — persons whose fathers, unwilling to sell their own blood, have manumitted their children. Let us look, then, to the statistics of the slave population. I find in the census of 1850 there were of mixed blood among the slave population 7.30 per cent; and in 1860, so busy had the pro-slavery Democracy been in augmenting the numerical power of the institution, that the 7.30 had swollen to 10.41; the negro race is to be saved as a distinct one, the only way to do it is to pull him from the embrace of the slaveholders, acknowledging the humanity of the slave, give him the rite of marriage, and teach him those great truths which, according to the gentlemen from New York, in twelve or fifteen hundred years gave freedom to Europe.

But enough and something too much of this. Indeed, I crave pardon of the speaker for having followed the gentlemen from Ohio so far in this discussion.

It is not for me, Mr. Speaker, to predict the fate of races of people. It is for me to disclose the providence of God with reference to our country. "Since unto the day is the evil thereof." My business, and yours, sir, and that of the House, is to legislate wisely for the remedy of the evils that now beset our country. The country, the world, humanity at large needs the labor of these friends upon the broad lands abandoned by rebel owners, and I beg the House to pull all as the sure means of securing present blessings and future peace and prosperity.

The gentleman from New York [Mr. Brooks] said further:

"I must accept facts accomplished, and abide by the consequences. Hence I recognize the Union of slavery; hence I intend to act hereafter upon that recognition, because it is inevitable. So far as I have influence I intend to withdraw that question from the exciting scenes of the day, and to go before the people upon other matters of difference."

Sir, I hail the gentleman as friend and brother in the good work of the Union. We welcome him as I hope soon to welcome to the ranks of the friends of freedom the gentleman from Ohio, [Mr. Cox,] who told us that the Democratic party had been a pro slavery party, and seemed to me to be paving the way for coming forward and joining those who bear the standard of progress. Yes, I shall welcome him too, addicted as he is to perfidy.

But the gentleman from New York says that slavery is dead. Let us give it a burial. Let us erect to its wicked memory a monument. Let us close the sepulchre with a stone so weighty that it shall preclude the possibility of resurrection. Let us put over it the Constitution of the United States, having fifteen therein that slavery or involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime, shall be forever prohibited within the United States, or any State thereof, or Territory belonging thereto. When we shall have done that, slavery will indeed be dead, and the United States be freedom's harbinger to mankind, offering welcome to the oppressed of the world. Will gentlemen give us a vote of amendment, and thus attest the sincerity of their conversion?

But something more is to be done. Slavery is not quite dead. It holds fastness still in Kentucky, where slaves are gathered from all the surrounding states, but it is in the act of death. We may consider it dead, and pass on to the next. Having eradicated chattel slavery, let us unite in securing freedom to the

aptions, loyal men, paying their debts, willing to work for moderate wages if promptly paid, docile and easily managed, dwelling among themselves, of temperate habits, cheerful and uncomplaining under every treatment with justice and common humanity, (in the southern climate) on the average, to work as long and as hard as white laborers, whether foreign

rich people are capable of taking care of themselves. Let us then give them indeed. We have struck the shackles from their limbs, but they are still children. They need such guidance and assistance at the hands of the wise as a faithful guardian would bestow. They have not owned themselves. It has been a rite denied them. They were not permitted to identify themselves with their children by the use of family names. History, science, and literature have not been made available books to them; nay, it has been a felony to teach them to read the Bible.

They, their wives and children, have been numbered, counted, bought and sold like horses, cows, and other cattle on the plantations of their owners. No more. They are sober, industrious, and skilled in the labor which makes these broad acres productive, and all that they need is guidance, the battle of life, and fair wages for fair day's work. Let us, then, by the passage of this bill, secure these blessings to them, and they will prove their own worthiness.

Gentleman [Mr. BROOKS] says they will be destroyed; that a harsh and tyrannical government will extirminate them; that liberty is no boon to them. In this he follows the theory of the despot and the aristocrat of every age and country. No man can be fit for freedom till he has got used to its enjoyment. I say that liberty is not a superstition, a name, an uncertain tradition. It is a fact well embodied in our political institutions, and is confirmed by the history and political life of New England. Freedom, sir, is for the laborer.

#### "Bread"

And a comely table spread,  
When from daily labor come,  
In a neat and happy home.  
It is clothes and fire and food  
For the trampled multitude."

Let this bill. Let the commissioners it calls into being see that abandoned land. Let the freedmen feel that he is a man with a home to call his own, a family around him, a wife to protect, children to nurture and rear, wages to earn and receive, and a right to invest his savings in the land of the country, and find that no race will prove itself able to blot out of existence these millions of toil. According to the gentleman's theory, the Irish race is rapidly disappearing from the world. Look at the census and behold its frightful exhibit. The population of Ireland was 8,175,124. In 1861, after a lapse of twenty years, it shrank to 5,764,543. Is the Irish element therefore disappearing? Is it taking an empire of Australia. It is taking advantage of our ridiculously reciprocity treaty with Canada, and building up a rival power beyond the Atlantic. The names of Corcoran, Mulligan, and Mengher tell you what it is doing.

Although the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HARRINGTON] would exclude the right of citizenship and confine it to the Anglo saxon alone, it was when the Irish element of humanity was exercising so wide, so beneficent an influence as it does to-day, when the little island of Ireland was being depopulated. You need not fear that this black race will

Give these people homes, the sense of proprietorship in the land, family, the pleasures and power of science, literature, philosophy, and the religion, and you need not fear that you can corrupt them as you have done the negroes. You can annihilate them by your power. The glowing South, the land of the sun, invites its own development and will insure that of his race. People of the South understand this matter better than we. I find in the New Orleans *Times*, of December 16, the proceedings of the convention of the friends of the colored people in the State of Louisiana. It was largely attended by the ablest and best lawyers of New Orleans and the contiguous parishes. Thomas J. Durant, Esq., who for many years has illustrated the glorious profession of law at the bar of Louisiana, presided, on taking the chair, said:

"Citizens of the convention, friends of the cause of human freedom and of liberty, I feel moved by the sentiment which animates me with every morning; for now, as I thank

ceedings of a mass meeting of colored people of New Orleans, held in L  
the preceding evening. I read extracts from a condensed account of  
taken from the columns of a leading New York Journal, remarking th  
ments are all sustained by the report to which I have referred:

"A meeting of the colored people of this city was held last evening in Lyceum  
Colonel McKay, one of the commissioners appointed by the President to investigate  
of the negroes emancipated by act of Congress, and the President's proclamation  
1863. Long before the hour of commencement every seat in the vast hall was filled  
aisles and all available standing-places were densely packed above and below.

"It is no exaggeration to say that a more respectable audience, so far as external  
were concerned, was never assembled in New Orleans. The female portion especially  
dressed, and looked as tidy and as genteel as the audience to be found in your fashion  
on the Sabbath. Many of the quadroons and octoors were of surpassing beauty,  
line of their countenance expressed intelligence, refinement, and good breeding.

"The white gentlemen present, who had spent much time among the degraded n  
Sea Islands of South Carolina, were astonished to find before them an audience so  
dressed, so intelligent in appearance, and in every respect so thoroughly competent  
all that should be said to them. It is also interesting to know that this Lyceum hall  
house; that it is the largest room in the city.

"The Rev. S. W. Rogers was appointed president of the meeting. The proceedings  
with prayer by a clergyman present, after which the chairman stated the object of the  
together. He then introduced Colonel McKay, the commissioner from the President.

"This gentleman on taking the stand was received with great applause. In a short  
stated to the audience that the people of the North and the President felt the deep  
the condition of the colored population of this city, and that the President had sent  
special commissioner to inquire into their condition. He had visited their schools,  
favorably impressed with the progress they were making. They must go in the world  
commenced, and must depend in a great measure upon their own labors for their sal

But my time will not allow further extracts.

Gentlemen say that the burthen proposed by this bill is to be expensive to the  
ernment; that if the system could be made lucrative, they "would love to do  
thing for these poor blacks." The blacks do not ask you to give them a  
work and wages. They wish to pay liberally for all beyond this. These  
out a name, known as Tom, Joe, and Dick, have rented their one, five, ten  
acres, and have produced a large amount of cotton, on which they pay a  
ment a duty of two cents per pound. I find in Mr. Yeatman's report on the  
tion of the Freedmen of the Mississippi the following statement on this subject:

"I visited quite a number of freedmen who were engaged in planting cotton  
account.

"Luke Johnson, colored, on the Albert Richardson place, will make five bales  
corn sufficient for his family and stock, and has sold \$300 worth of vegetables. He  
expenses without aid from the Government. He commenced work last May.

"Bill Gibson and Phil Ford, colored, commenced work last May, and will make  
cotton. They occasionally hire a woman or two, and have paid their hands in full  
their own provisions.

"Solomon Richardson, colored, on the Sam. Richardson place, will make ten bales  
He has one hand to assist him, and has a good garden and corn.

"Richard Walton, colored, will make seven bales of cotton. He has only had  
gathering it. He has no garden, but has provided for himself, and paid for everything.

"Henry Johnson, colored, will make eight bales of cotton, doing all the work himself.  
"Moses Wright, colored, will make five bales. He has had his wife and two women  
and all have paid their own way.

"Jacob, colored, on the B. Ackman place, has made seven bales of very fine cotton  
saw, and equal to any ever grown in this section. He had some assistance.

"Jim Blue colored, an old man, has made two bales of cotton.

"George, colored, aided by two women, has made eight bales of cotton.

"Milly, colored woman, whose husband was killed by the rebels, will make three bales  
She had two boys to aid her in picking, at fifty cents per day.

"Peter, colored, and his son, have made two bales, and raised a crop of corn.

"Ned, colored, will make two and a half bales of cotton, besides his corn.

"Charles, colored, will make two bales of cotton, besides his corn.

"Sancho, colored, works part of the Ballard place. I was informed he would make  
of cotton. He works about twenty-seven men, women, and boys. I called to see him  
absent.

"Patrick, colored, on the Parrot place, near Millikin's Bend, has made about  
bales of cotton. He has six or seven persons to aid him.

"Bob, colored, will make nine or ten bales of cotton on the same place.

"Prince colored, will make six or seven bales of cotton.

Adjutant General Thomas also tells us that he has leased fifteen pl

freedom, and that they worked them well and judiciously raising

one hundred and fifty bales of cotton, on every pound of which the

	Bales.	Bales sold.	Netting
xward.	47	..	.....
xwell.	28	..	.....
others.	12	..	.....
ny.	66	..	.....
ley.	27	6	\$1,401 35
n.	7	3	790 43
ch.	2	2	504 84
is.	75	29	6,897 43
son.	31	9	2,251 69
on.	10	7	1,642 13
walker.	11	9	2,661 18
odin.	5	5	1,247 60
	14	2	530 61
	4	4	1,023 94
	28	25	5,838 60
number of bales raised.	367	101	
ls of 101 bales sold.			\$24,239 80
re of 276 " at \$240.			66,240 00
			<hr/>
			\$90,479 80
	<hr/>		

contraband, having twelve bales of cotton as working capital, may earn himself a "local habitation and a name."

General Thomas' arrangements these people were hired at seven dollars a man able-bodied man, and five dollars for a woman. Under the influences generated this bill their wages have been raised to twenty-five dollars for a twenty dollars for a second-class, and fifteen dollars for a third-class man, men of the same character, instead of being compelled to labor for five dollars get eighteen, fourteen, and eleven dollars.

Speculators, when they leased lands, said they could not work them and pay us; but when the lettings of hands came to be made there was much common laborers at the enhanced price. On this subject Mr. Yeatman says:

There those who stated that plantations could not be leased, if they had to pay the wages required, say for men graded No. 1, twenty-five dollars; No. 2, twenty dollars, fifteen dollars; women of the same grades, eighteen dollars, fourteen dollars, and so on; but, notwithstanding, when the time for leasing came, there were none that on this account."

Any advantage to ourselves is a mean argument to suggest; but let me tell the men of the Northwest do not wish to create millions of consumers, consumers, of their great staples? I know that Pennsylvania and New York will not complain if these four million people who have been non-consumers their products shall send each fall and spring to buy the products of their farms. It will do the North no harm to see these freedmen and their families rather than in dog hutches called slave quarters; to know that they sets on their floors, furniture in their rooms, and Yankee clocks on their walls; and that when on the Sabbath day they repair to the village built by their own generous contributions, they dress as their taste may dictate.

Mr. Speaker, is not a political bill. It is required by the exigencies of We are in the midst of a revolution, and it is no answer to the demand of a bureau to say that there has never been a Freedmen's Bureau before. Answer to say that there is no precedent. Gentlemen turn your vision to to-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow again will come, and will bring new conditions and new duties; and the man who is not on front the morrow is not fit to legislate for the leading nation of the world.

Gentlemen inquire whether this bill will benefit the white man. Yes, it is, and that among the eight million whites of the South, with scarcely any among them, for foreign labor has been excluded by the system of or that prevailed—among the eight million whites there are more than thousand more who cannot read or write than are found among the eight millions of the North, though these embrace almost all the uneducated foreigners who have emigrated to this country. Under the provisions of this bill, by educated plantations are to be occupied, the colored men who have never

and benefit of the aged and infirm freed people and motherless children, and the schools. If the quantity of land applied for should be cultivated, it will yield from twelve to fifteen hundred thousand dollars per annum to be applied to the purposes mentioned, a sum more than sufficient. These who labor will support themselves, and will be established on every plantation leased where there are children sufficient.

"The quantity of land applied for will more than employ all the laborers now in the South, and those most conversant with the condition of things at the South will be no difficulty on the score of laborers, that thousands will flock in the mean time that there is work for them at fair wages. They have a dread of the Freedmen which so many have suffered and died."

And again:

"By a judicious fostering of the system of labor proposed, it will not only relieve the charge of many thousands of these people whom they are now feeding in idleness, and who must if so continued sink into a deeper state of degeneracy than they were as slaves. With protection such as is asked for, all will find at fair wages, and will be able fully to support themselves, besides putting millions into the Treasury in the way of rental and tax and duties on cotton. If the number of land applied for are planted and the product derived from it as anticipated, a revenue of eight millions may be calculated on."

But my time is almost spent. I appeal to gentlemen to let this bill pass at once, to aid in its passage, and for once at least give

Thanks for the privilege to bless  
By word and deed  
The widow in her keen distress,  
The childless and the fatherless,  
The hearts that bleed."

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